

Was Published, April 1st, 1801, Price 1s. an entire New Work, entitled,

40434/P

CASES, OF SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE WITH *Perkins's Patent Metallic Tractors,*

Communicated since JANUARY, 1800,

BY MANY SCIENTIFIC CHARACTERS;

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED,

PREFATORY REMARKS,

In Exposition of the Artifices of Interest and Prejudice to prevent the
Adoption of the Metallic Practice.

BY BENJAMIN DOUGLAS PERKINS, A. M.

Of Leicester Square, London; the Patentee.

"VIRES ACQUIRIT EUNDO."

Sold by J. Johnson, St. Paul's Church-Yard; J. Wright, Piccadilly; Ogilvy and Son, Holborn, London; J. Rusher, Reading; Cruttwell, Bath; Bell and Bradfute, Edinburgh; W. Gilbert, Dublin; and all other Booksellers.

THE above work, which was promised in a late Number of this Journal, the Patentee has now the pleasure of presenting to the Possessors of his Metallic Tractors. Persons of this description, who, through error in its delivery, or other causes, should happen not to be put in possession of the Book, agreeably to the Author's promise, are respectfully solicited to apply and receive it (*gratis*) of him, in Leicester Square; or of FREDERICK SMITH, Chemist and Druggist, in the Haymarket, London.

Those who have been in the habit of favoring the Patentee with their visits it is proper to notify, that he has removed from No. 18, to No. 28, Leicester Square; the House of the late JOHN HUNTER, Surgeon; which he has taken, from its superior accommodations for attending Patients, as well as his numerous visitors.

The number and respectability of the Attestations in the above-mentioned work preclude the necessity of any statement in this place respecting the unprecedented progress of the Metallic Practice. In his former notice, through the medium of this Journal, the Patentee expressed his confidence, that those of his friends whose Communications, contrary to their expectations, would not find a place in his book, could desire no other apology than merely the statement, that, to publish the whole he has received, would have required a moderate folio volume. He has aimed to avoid the inconvenience of a bulky work; and, at the same time, attended to the suggestion of many of his respectable friends, whose sight, from advanced years, may have become in some degree impaired, "that his last small-lettered Tract, with a view of comprising much matter in a little compass, was rendered almost illegible:" The present is of a larger type, and better displayed.

As the Patentee never publishes one Communication twice, there shall at present be adduced a few

CASES, NOT BEFORE IN THIS JOURNAL.

THE REV. WILLIAM NICOL, of *Hans Place, Knightsbridge, London*; Co-Pastor with the Rev. Dr. TROTTER; to B. D. PERKINS.

"DEAR SIR,

Hans Place, Feb. 12th, 1801.

"I was favoured with yours of yesterday, and am sorry that I have not more time to give you a full account of my success in the Metallic Practice. In a variety of instances I have with these wonder-working instruments brought down tumefactions, and completely relieved pain when very intense. Here are one or two cases.

CASE.—*Gout.* "On the 7th of January last, I applied the Tractors to a man, who had, for several days, been severely afflicted with the Gout in his foot. In the space of twenty minutes, he told me that the burning heat which he had experienced was gone, and that he felt a most agreeable warmth. In a short time after this, he affirmed that the pain also was perfectly relieved. I have this day received a note from him, in which he informs me that a complete cure was effected, and that he has experienced no return.

CASES OF PRACTICE WITH

CASE.—Sprain. “A lady, who had sprained her arm, called upon me about a month ago. I applied the Tractors about a quarter of an hour, when she said it was by no means so acute as when I began. I desired her to call again next morning, which she did, for a repetition of the application. During this, I was astonished to find that, although no perspiration was observable on that side of the arm on which the Tractors were used, yet they caused the other side to perspire most profusely; so much so, that the part of the table on which she laid her arm was covered with water; and this in the cold month of February! She was cured by this application, and is now well.

“I shall do all in my power to recommend your Metallic Tractors; and, in doing so, shall act from a sense of duty to my afflicted fellow creatures.

I remain, dear Sir, your most obedient Servant.

WILLIAM NICOL.”

MR. J. A. MANT, SURGEON, of *Southampton*; to B. D. PERKINS.

Southampton, February 27th, 1801.

CASE.—Violent Pain in the Forehead, with great Irritability and Weakness.

“DEAR SIR.—On the 4th of November, I was consulted by the parents of a young lady, eleven years of age, who had been affected nearly two months with great pain in the forehead, accompanied with extreme irritability of the globe of the eye, and tenderness of the eyelids. The pain was very acute and almost constant; the intervals of ease being very short.—My opinion respecting the Metallic Tractors was requested; of the influence of which, in this case, I confess, I entertained great doubt. I found the young lady in a very debilitated state, accompanied with impaired appetite, feeble pulse and excessive languor. Her sleep was disturbed in consequence of the distressing paroxysms, which so repeatedly attacked her, and which were observed to be more violent in the evening. She made no complaint of any other part.

“On inquiry, I learned that she had been attended some time by a very eminent Physician, who, from different views of her case, had had recourse to various and some of the most powerful medicines; but without procuring any permanent relief. In consequence of this information, I became still less confident respecting the Tractors, and advised her friends to entertain but faint hopes of their affording relief. Being anxious however of availing themselves of a remedy which promised even the slightest alleviation, (and which could do no harm), they desired me to make the experiment. Having taken an opportunity of waiting on the young lady, during one of the most violent paroxysms, which happened usually at about eight o'clock in the evening, I began to use the Tractors. Having continued so to do half an hour, she, to my great surprise and satisfaction, became perfectly easy. The pain returning after a short time, I used them again, and with the same success.

“The Tractors being left in the house, they were constantly applied on the accession of pain, which was as constantly removed thereby; sometimes in a very few minutes. It was necessary at first to use them fifteen or twenty minutes in twenty-four hours. This necessity, however, existed but a very short time. In a week she was so much relieved, that the pain returned only two or three times in the day, and then in a much less violent degree. In three weeks the pain entirely ceased; and she has continued perfectly well to the time in which I write. She took no medicines; nor used any other application during the cure, except half an ounce of castor oil, on the second day of my attendance.

“You have liberty to publish this case from, Dear Sir, your humble Servant,

J. A. MANT.”

THOMAS SHAW, Esq. of the *Bond Office, Custom House, London.*

Stoke Newington, Feb. 28, 1801.

“DEAR SIR,

“Since I have been in the possession of your valuable Tractors, I have fully satisfied myself of their efficacy; and I feel a pleasure in acquainting you that in many cases of *Head-ach, Scalds, Burns, &c.* they have been of very great use; far above my most sanguine expectations.

CASE.—Very intense Burn. “Of one case (about a month since) I cannot pass over without informing you. It was that of a lad in this place, who was taking up stairs a ladle full of solder, to mend some lead on the roof of a house of a particular friend of mine, in Church-street. In ascending the stairs, his foot slipped, and the solder burnt his right leg in two places very much indeed:—one place, on the shin bone, larger than a crown-piece, and the other somewhat smaller, in the calf. When the stocking (worsted) was pulled down, the skin and solder came away together: warm vinegar was then applied for about a quarter of an hour, without effect.

“It struck my friend that the Tractors might be of use; which, on their being applied about forty minutes, totally removed the surrounding inflammation. They were used the next day for about a quarter of an hour; when, to the astonishment of every one, the boy was enabled to walk home without any pain. One thing was very remarkable: during the use of the Tractors, the lad, of his own accord, declared that he felt the inflamma-

PERKINS'S PATENT METALLIC TRACTORS.

tion follow them; a circumstance I do not remember to have read in any of your printed cases. * One of the men, a Plumber, expressed his astonishment at the cure, and stated that he had been laid up three months from a similar accident.

"Some days after, Mrs. Shaw called to see the lad; who, she found, had bruised the scalded part of the shin very much; and which, in consequence, was again inflamed. She left the Tractors; which, being applied four times, have made a perfect cure.

"You will please to observe, that this relation I had from my friend at whose house the accident happened, and on whose veracity I can depend. He is removed from this place, or else, I am persuaded, he would with pleasure have given you the statement himself. It has, however, in his opinion, established the efficacy of the Tractors.

I am, dear Sir, your most humble Servant, THOMAS SHAW."

P. S. "Since writing the above, I have seen the lad, who admits the statement to be strictly correct in every particular. T. S."

C. C. LANGWORTHY, M. D. of Bath.

The Author was favoured with the following Letter during a visit of Dr. Langworthy at Exeter.

"DEAR SIR,

Exeter, September 8th, 1800.

"Since I last had the honor of writing to you, several cases of Metallic Practice have occurred, which I think worth communicating. Indeed the astonishing success which myself, as well as all others *who have tried the Tractors*, have met with, while it excites my surprize that any persons should really doubt their efficacy, at the same time grieves me to be obliged to ascribe the opposition of many to a very unjustifiable and dishonorable principle. How a Medical man, whose pledge is every way so sacredly given to employ the readiest mode of relieving his patients, should, from motives palpably lucrative, object to the use of this simple and effectual remedy, is a point which his own conscience can best resolve. The merits of the Metallic Practice, aided by your own perseverance, will soon bring its enemies to the stool of repentance.

"I have many cases of extraordinary cures registered in my note-book, but have not time at present to transcribe more than the following. This you have verbatim, as minuted down at the time.

CASE.—*Violent Contusions*. "Sept. 1st, 1800: I was this morning solicited, as an act of charity, by a lady of great humanity in this city, to visit Richard Southwood, a poor boy of St. Thomas's Parish, twelve years of age, who, four hours and a half before, had been ran over by an empty cart, drawn by three horses. Five hours elapsed from the time the accident happened before I could reach the place. Found the child in bed, but nothing had been done for him. By examining the parts, as well as by the accounts of persons who witnessed the accident, I found the wheel had passed over both his legs: the right leg, about the *malleolus externus*; and the left, about an inch and a half under the knee. However strange it may appear, neither of his legs were broken; but both were much tumefied and inflamed. The skin was abraded, and there appeared an effusion of blood to some distance around the parts. The pulse wts quickened, the skin very hot and dry, and the child complained of great thirst. This was a case in which I had long wished to try the effect of the Tractors; I began the operation by drawing them over the right leg twenty-five minutes, when the child exclaimed, "I am easier; this is not so painful as the other; though just now it was the worst." I then applied them to the other leg in like manner; and relief was there also very soon experienced. On examining the leg which was first operated upon, I found, to my surprize, as well as to that of other persons present, that the inflammation and swelling were nearly removed. In the evening, visited my little patient again; found him in good spirits, and in but little pain; he had slept well several hours, and was free from fever. Applied the Tractors for about the same length of time, and left him quite easy.

"Sept. 2d. Found my patient down stairs, playing with his sisters, and free from pain. His legs were neither tumefied nor inflamed. The wound appeared dry, but not painful. Did not apply the Tractors. Sept. 3d. He went to work as usual, a mile from home. Sept. 8th. Went to see my little patient: he was quite well in every respect, and had been so ever since the 3d instant.

"Had I not known the wonderful effects of your Tractors, I should have ordered this child to be bled; to have taken laxative medicines, and to use saturnine washes for his legs, &c. &c. By applying the Tractors *alone*, I had the satisfaction of arresting a poor boy from a long confinement, if not from a dangerous fever.

"You have my liberty to publish this case, if you think it will in any manner tend to silence the clamour of interest and prejudice. I have the honor to be, Sir, your very obedient Servant,

CHARLES CUNNINGHAM LANGWORTHY."

* This effect is by no means unusual;—Inflammation, as well as pain, often follows the Points of the Tractors.

CASES OF PRACTICE, &c.

MR. W. PIGRAM, of Tenterden, Kent; Author of an ingenious "ESSAY ON GALVANIC ELECTRICITY AND PERKINISM:" to B. D. PERKINS.

Tenterden, Jan. 25, 1801.

CASE.—*Violent Chronic Rheumatism, with a large Tumour on the Thigh.*

"DEAR SIR.—As I gave you in part the case of a violent Rheumatic Affection, some time since; in the treatment of which, you favoured me with some useful instruction; I am now enabled to report it more at length, with its happy termination.

"A young woman, of Tenterden, had been most violently afflicted with the Rheumatism for nearly two years; and obliged, in consequence, to leave a valuable service, and to return to her parents; being unable to walk without crutches; and, even then, not without great pain. She had, in addition, a large, cold, painful tumour, of the size of a man's fist, above the right hip. The pain spread from that tumour down the thigh to the knee. She tried, among other remedies, Electricity, from a very experienced Electrician; but still grew worse. Mr. Houghman, a respectable apothecary of this place, recommended her to me as a proper subject for the Tractors. I accordingly began with them, but under no other expectation than that my patient must have died; but, to our astonishment, after applying the Tractors four days, she was able to walk a mile and a half, without the assistance of her crutches! The pain in the hip and thigh was greatly abated; but the tumour remained much the same: However, after a few more applications of the Tractors upon that part, there appeared several small pustules over the surface of the tumour, and she complained of great soreness, which evinced the return of sensibility. The Tractors were regularly continued twice a day, for fifteen days; when, the tumour was brought to such a state of sensibility; that she could not bear their pressure upon it.—A fluid being now evidently formed, we applied a poultice of bread and milk; in three days after which, the tumour burst, and discharged a pint of matter; at the same time, another evacuation which had been suppressed, returned. Thus, from the stimulating effect of the Tractors, all the powers of Nature seem to have been roused to make one great effort. Here I left off using the Tractors, as every thing was expected to go on well without them. As she required to be supported under so copious a discharge, Mr. Houghman had the liberality to make her a present of as much bark as she wanted; and I represented her case to the parish, by whom she was humanely ordered to have six bottles of red port, and whatever else she stood in need of. In four weeks the tumour was not healed, and she complained of great weakness and a wasting of the thigh. I again lent her the Tractors, and directed her friends how they should be used, twice a day. Immediately on their application the ulcer began to heal, and the thigh to gain strength; and thus she progressed, till she was perfectly cured, and able to go to service again.

"I could send you many cases in which the Tractors have had the most salutary effect; but I am persuaded they are now so well known, and so universally approved, as to require no further testimony to their important influence.

Rheumatic Complaints and Swelled Faces, of a short duration, I have cured by using the Tractors only three or four times. I am &c. W. PIGRAM."

THE TRACTORS are effectual in ACUTE and CHRONIC RHEUMATISM, including LUMBAGO and SCIATICA; GOUT, SPRAINS, CONTUSIONS, BURNS, SCALDS, INFLAMMATIONS of the EYES; also of the SKIN, as ERYSIPELAS and TETTERS; Painful INFLAMMATORY TUMOURS, as BILES and WHITLOWS; Violent SPASMODIC CONVULSIONS, as EPILEPTIC FITS, CRAMP and LOCKED JAW; PLEURISY; STINGS and BITES of Venomous INSECTS, FLUOR ALBUS; Pains in the HEAD, FACE, TEETH, EARS, BREAST, SIDE, BACK, LIMBS, and all analogous DISEASES of HORSES.

A CAUTION.

⚡ INSTANCES occurred during the last Year, where the Tractors suffered discredit through illegal and dishonourable attempts to circulate spurious imitations.—To guard against Impositions, Applicants will please to observe, that every Genuine Set of Tractors is stamped with the words "PERKINS PATENT TRACTORS;" and to the printed Directions accompanying them is subjoined a Receipt for the Five Guineas, signed in the Hand-writing of the Patentee.—To counterfeit this is Felony.

THE TRACTORS, so necessary in every Family, and among Horses, may be had, with new and improved Directions for using them; rendering the mode of Application perfectly intelligible to every Capacity, for FIVE GUINEAS the Set, of BENJAMIN DOUGLAS PERKINS, A. M. the Patentee, in Leicester Square; of FREDERICK SMITH, Chemist and Druggist, in the Haymarket, London; and of CHARLES WHITTELL, Chemist and Druggist, Bridge-Street, Chester.—Their portable Nature renders their Conveyance to any part of Great Britain, by Coach, and even by Post, perfectly convenient. Letters (*Post paid*) enclosing their Amount in a Bill or Check, will be punctually attended to.

PRINTED BY GEORGE COOKE, DUNSTAN'S HILL, TOWER STREET.